

organisms may be satisfactorily explained, when it is remembered that the open sea in which the great Mountain Limestone of Cheat river—the Chester, St. Louis, and other beds of the West—accumulated, shoaled away to a beach line of muddy shallows in Eastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania, similar in every respect to the *Waverly* and *Pocono* beaches that had preceded them, and consequently we should expect to find the life forms that had inhabited the latter, continuing on with but slight changes up into the edges of the Mauch Chunk series, where, overlapping the *Mountain Limestone*, it practically continued the Pocono beaches on to the close of the Subcarboniferous epoch.

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*Stated Meeting, November 3, 1882.*

Present, 12 members.

Vice-President, Dr. LE CONTE, in the Chair.

Letters accepting membership were received from C. Rau, dated Smithsonian Institution, Washington, Oct. 25, and from Garrick Mallery, Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, Oct. 28.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from Thomas C. Porter, Easton (111); and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington (110,111).

A circular letter was received from the Department of the Interior, dated Oct. 26.

Donations for the Library were received from the Zoölogischer Anzeiger, Leipsig; Academy at Brussels; Geographical Society, Paris; London Nature; Canadian Naturalist, Montreal; American Academy of Arts and Sciences; American Journal, New Haven; N. Y. Meteorological Observatory at Central Park; Franklin Institute, Philada.; Hon. Thomas H. Dudley, Camden; Signal Service Bureau and U. S. Engineer Department, Washington; and the Chapultepec Observatory, Mexico.

An obituary notice of Ralph Waldo Emerson was read by Rev. C. G. Ames.

The death of C. G. N. David, Ph.D., was announced from the Royal Danish Academy, Copenhagen. [No date or age given.]

The death of Mr. B. V. Marsh, at Burlington, on Oct. 30, aged 62, was announced.

The Committee on Com. McCauley's Memoir, reported progress.

The Committee on Dr. Wood's Memoir, reported progress.

Mr. Lesley exhibited some of the recent publications of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, and showed how near completion it now is.

The Minute, written by the President, at the request of the Society, at its last meeting, was read.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last meeting, the President presented the following for entry on the Minutes:—

The two hundredth anniversary of the founding of Pennsylvania was celebrated during the week ending October 28th, 1882.

The exercises and exhibitions were of a character to recall the scenes of the arrival of the Founder, his dealings with the aboriginal inhabitants, his offers to first settlers, and the enactment of his great laws for securing liberty of conscience, equality of civil rights, and the regular and impartial administration of justice.

To these were added civic displays showing the ancient and present forms of civilization that had existed and now mark the condition of our noble Commonwealth, and illustrate its present state of population, wealth, diversity of employments, manufactures, general resources, and the numerous forms in which society is divided for the promotion of benevolence, temperance, charity, and social enjoyment.

The closing displays were of the military organizations in which the defenders of the Union in the late civil war participated in large numbers and by the union of those representatives of the past with the representatives of the present in organizations for the defence of the country, for the protection of the people and for the general welfare of the republic, was seen the admirable working of our American systems of military provisions.

The celebration was a great jubilee participated in by immense numbers of the citizens of Pennsylvania and cordial sympathizing visitors from other States, and it will distinctly and vividly mark a great epoch in our history.

From the handful of settlers that landed with Penn, the population of

the State has swelled to four millions and one-half of people, and that of the City of Philadelphia to one million.

Of all the history of State and City we may be justly proud, for the foundations on which it was built have been preserved and strengthened.

Of this vast growth our Society has been the living witness, for it was founded only sixty years after the landing of William Penn; and it is fitting that in addition to the full accounts that will be given by chroniclers of this great event and which will form part of our library, this brief notice of it should constitute part of our Minutes.

Pending nomination No. 969 and new nominations Nos. 970 to 976 were read.

And the meeting was adjourned.

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*Obituary Notice of Ralph Waldo Emerson. By Charles G. Ames.*

*(Read before the American Philosophical Society, Nov. 3, 1882.)*

Ralph Waldo Emerson, whose name has honored the records of this Society since 1868, was born in Boston, May 25, 1803, and died in Concord, Mass., April 28, 1882. Of mixed Puritan and Huguenot ancestry, he brought into the 19th century the essences rather than the forms of Calvinistic creed and culture; and grew up as the handsome flower of a sturdy stock. His being was like a retort into which many generations of thoughtful piety had been distilled; for never was a clearer case of hereditary marking than in his tendency to the independent pursuit of high and sober studies. He had the physical make-up of a student, with just enough of healthy muscular development to furnish sheathing for a nervous structure of extraordinary fineness and vigor.

Of how many New England lads, in the early part of this century, may the same story be told: Graduating from Harvard at 18, then teaching for a while, then settling to the study of divinity. Already familiar with Plato and Montaigne, whose mixed coloring matter had passed into his blood, the lad was yet fond of Augustine, Pascal, and Jeremy Taylor. He had also come in contact with the free devoutness and benevolence of Dr. Channing, and had yielded to the spell of Wordsworth and Coleridge. A little later he was to feel the powerful influence of Carlyle and Goethe.

In 1826 he began to preach; in 1829 he was ordained and installed minister of a Unitarian Church in Boston. His sermons struck the dominant note of all his later thinking and writing, their evident purpose being to induce in each hearer the assurance of "life in himself." It was this intensity of faith in the intimate relations of each human spirit to the Di-